

MRVED UPDATE



MINNESOTA RIVER VALLEY EDUCATION DISTRICT
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September 2, 2011

Kate Stower from the [Minnesota Center for Social Studies Education](#) (division of [Minnesota Historical Society](#)) will be at the MRVED **November 4** to introduce the new Minnesota social studies standards. The standards must be implemented no later than the 2013-14 school year. She will present ½ day sessions, one to elementary (K-5) and one to middle school/high school (6-12). If you are a teacher of social studies, please plan to attend one of the sessions. Times of the meeting are TBD, please mark the date on your calendar.

National Art Education Association Grant

The [National Art Education Foundation](#) gave out nearly \$40,000 in grants last year. There were 48 applicants and 10 projects funded. Applications are to be postmarked by October 1st.

Minnesota Department of Education Environmental and Outdoor Education Grant

The state of Minnesota has set aside nearly \$30,000 for Science grants. The purpose of these state funds are to design and implement innovative environmental and outdoor education (EOE) programs that bolster student achievement in middle school or high school science, physical education, social studies and/or mathematics. Funds may also be used to build capacity for schools teachers to teach EOE programs. Application deadline is September 30, 2011. (Grant is located towards the bottom of the page)

ECFE Best Practice Meeting Summary

The ECFE teachers and parent educators met at MRVED on August 12, 2011. The parent educators discussed the Curriculum Core Framework and were brought up to speed on that with Yvonne facilitating. The teachers looked at math vocabulary and had a great discussion about being consciously aware of using math terminology in all activities. Brandon also shared some iPad apps and talked about the MRVED technology goal and vision for the year. The group then discussed the question, "How much technology is too much?" The group broke for lunch at Pizza Ranch and continued the meeting in the afternoon discussing and sharing classroom ideas.

TIP/RESOURCE OF THE WEEK

If you are a [Diigo](#) member, you can join the [MRVED Group](#) and get daily updates when members post bookmarks into the group. This would be a great way to share resources amongst your colleagues. When you are in your own bookmarks within Diigo, go to My Groups on the top toolbar, and then to browse other popular groups, and search for MRVED and join the group or use the links provided. You will be able to get bookmarks from other MRVED members sent directly to your inbox.

[Video on how to sign up for Diigo](#)

CORRECTION TO LAST WEEK'S UPDATE:

The MRVED webinars will start at **3:20 p.m.** not 3:10 p.m. as listed last week. Also, the webinars will be hosted through [justin.tv](#) NOT dyyno.com. Webinars will be held every other Monday starting September 12. Check the MRVED calendar for details.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

September 14
Principals' Council

September 22
Teachers' Advisory Council

September 23
Title III Teachers

September 28
Superintendents' Council

MRVED APP OF THE WEEK:

e-readers have grown in popularity over the last year and it is no surprise that the iPad would have an app for that. Here is a list of different e-reader apps. All e-reader apps are free and allow the user to purchase books from an online database. Most books are either cheaper or the same price as their "real" counterparts. Most databases have a free section as well, including many of the classics.

- ◆ [Kindle](#) - Purchase books from the Amazon database.
- ◆ [Nook](#) - Barnes and Noble e-reader.
- ◆ [Nook Kids](#) - Kids version of Nook.
- ◆ [iBooks](#) - Apple's own e-reader.
- ◆ [Touchy Books](#) - e-reader for kids with lots of interactivity.